(b) whether it has also come to the notice of Central Government that some National Highways are not properly maintained resulting in spurt of road accidents; and

(c) if so, whether Government have any proposal to entrust the maintenance and upkeep of national highways to private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir, except some National Highways which are under Border Road Development Board. Funds for this purpose are provided by the Union Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Augmentation of Central Road Fund

2539. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are onsidering various proposals to augment the Central Road Fund

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps are being taken to improve roads; and

(d) what are the major proposals under consideration for implementation in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Parliament had, in May, 1988 passed a Resolution on augmentation of Central Road Fund enhancing the cess from 3.5 paise per litre to 5 percent of the basic price of petrol and also ringing diesel within its purview.

(c) and (d) Constitutionally, the Govt. of India is primarily concerned with Roads declared as National Highways only. The responsibility for roads other than National Highways in States, is essentially that of the State Government concerned. In case of Andhra Pradesh, 5 proposals costing Rs. 981.40 lacs have been approved under Central Road Fund as per Old Resolution.

Enhancement of allocation of C.R.F. to States

2540. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the allocation of Central Road Funds (CRF) to States was enhanced in 1988 by a resolution passed in Parliament;

(b) if so, whether Government have implemented the same by disbursing the revised rates of Central loan accruing to Karnataka; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State of Karnataka now qualifies for a disbursement of Rs 1500 lakhs per annum as per new rates and if so how soon Central Government propose to disburse the States fund accruals for taking up major road work programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Although a revised Resolution for augmentation of Central Road Fund was passed by Parliament in 1988, it has not been implemented so far as funds to the extent required are not forthcoming Pending actual augmentation of Central Road Fund, the funds are being released to the States including Karnataka as per Old Resolution.

It is too early to indicate the time frame for making enhanced allocation under Central Road Fund to States including Karnataka as per revised Resolution.